

ERNEST ERBER

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**CONSULTANT IN HUMAN RELATIONS,
EQUAL OPPORTUNITY AND CIVIL
RIGHTS; SPECIALIZING IN HOUSING
AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT.**

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Consultant in Urban Affairs

Ernest Erber is an urban affairs consultant, specializing in equal opportunity policies and planning for governmental and private agencies. He served as Director of Research and Program Planning for the National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing until April, 1980, having joined its staff early in 1969 to direct a three-year, Carnegie-funded study of the movement of industry to suburban areas and its impact upon the non-white labor force locked into segregated housing in inner cities. Prior to joining NCDH's staff, he served as a member of its Board of Directors.

Mr. Erber's responsibilities at NCDH included on-going research on race and housing; editing FLASH, a reporting service on federal legislation and regulations affecting equal opportunity; design and management of NCDH contract training programs for governmental and private agencies; giving expert testimony in NCDH litigation; preparation of position papers for adoption by NCDH national and regional conferences; design and execution of sample surveys; ghost-writing of speeches and congressional testimony for NCDH officers; participating in design of massive compliance testing of real estate brokers in some 40 major cities under a one-million dollar plus HUD contract; manager of a minority housing mobility information project under contract to HUD; writing proposals for grants from foundations and for service contracts from government; writing of NCDH's annual reports to the Ford Foundation; writing of articles, papers and brochures; preparing news releases and handling NCDH media relations; representing NCDH as a speaker at conferences, meetings, dinners and on television; and related work.

Because of Mr. Erber's professional experience in urban and regional planning, his research and writing on race and housing at NCDH pioneered new insights into exclusionary zoning, housing allocation planning, affirmative marketing of housing, housing/job linkages for the minority labor force, future of the inner city, "gentrification" of declining neighborhoods, and the new forms and functions of suburbanization.

As a regional and urban planner, Mr. Erber is a full member of the American Institute of Certified Planners, the professional organization in his field. He is a past President of AICP's New Jersey Chapter and served as 1968 National Conference Program Chairman. He also served on AICP's National Panel of Examiners and is a contributor to the Journal of the American Planning Association.

He was a member of the graduate faculty of Pratt Institute from 1969 to 1972, where he lectured in its Department of City and Regional Planning.

Mr. Erber served as Executive Director of the Passaic Valley Citizens Planning Association from 1949 to 1960, directing a professional staff that served some ten municipalities in Passaic, Bergen and Essex Counties in the preparation of master plans, urban renewal projects, and the drafting of legislation pertinent to planning operations. He has been prominent in efforts to reclaim and conserve the Hackensack (N.J.) "meadowlands" (salt marshes at the door step of New York City) and was largely instrumental in bringing about a revival of interest in this project beginning in 1954.

Mr. Erber served as Area Director of the Regional Plan Association from 1960 to 1968 with offices in Newark, New Jersey. In this capacity he prepared a background study and position paper in 1967 on New Jersey's total capital needs that led to the appointment of the Governor's Capital Needs Commission and the passage of the \$990 million bond issue in 1968. His position paper on New Jersey's need for long-range planning of water supply and pollution control led to the appointment of a Special Legislative Commission and passage of a state bond issue in 1969. He participated in drafting legislation for state-aided, middle-income housing and was an early participant in the moves that led to the creation of the "Musto" Commission to study intergovernmental relations. He initiated a successful fight for a policy of state acquisition of park lands near population centers.

Mr. Erber is a founder and Board Member of Appalachian Highlands Association, an urban-oriented conservation group that seeks to contain urban sprawl by preserving the first range of the Appalachians from Dutchess County (N.Y.), to Somerset County (N.J.) as a "green belt" of some 80 miles in length and 12 miles in width, designed to serve as a "backyard" to New York/New Jersey Metropolitan area. Mr. Erber is author of A Dirty Problem, an AHA pamphlet on ecology and urban development.

He has served as a consultant to New Jersey's Department of Community Affairs; a consultant to the Commission to Study County and Municipal Government in New Jersey; and Associate Director and Technical Advisor to the New Jersey Federation of Planning Officials; and Technical Advisor to Mayor Kenneth Gibson of Newark. In the late 1950's and early 1960's, Mr. Erber served as a consultant to the staff of Senator Harrison Williams of New Jersey in preparation of the pioneering legislation that established the federal programs for grants to mass transportation and local and state open space acquisition.

Mr. Erber served on the faculty of Fairleigh Dickinson University as lecturer in urban sociology and as consultant to the Urban Studies Center at Rutgers University, moderating its Urban Issues Seminars in 1965. He has written numerous papers and articles on planning theory and

practice, and is a contributing author to the textbook, "The Local Planning Process in New Jersey". His volume of professional papers Urban Planning in Transition, published in 1970, is used widely as a text in planning courses.

A partial list of recent papers and articles by Mr. Erber includes:

"Minorities and the Future of Cities", with Herrington J. Bryce and Philip Clay, in Urban Governance and Minorities, Herrington J. Bryce (ed.), Praeger, New York, 1977.

"Conflicting Concepts of Citizen Participation" in Citizen Participation Certification for Community Development: A Reader on the Citizen Participation Process, Patricia Marshall (ed), National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials, Washington, 1977.

"Mortgage Credit Practices: Discrimination and Disinvestment", with Daniel Searing, in Civil Rights, A Staff Report of the Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights of the Committee on the Judiciary, United States Senate, Robert A. Malson (ed.), U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, 1976.

"The Suburbanization of America", by Robert C. Weaver, with research and development of analysis by Ernest Erber, in School Desegregation: the Courts and Suburban Migration, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 1976.

HUD's Administration of the Community Development Block Grants as an Evil Fruit of Nixon's "New Federalism". Paper presented to the Annual Conference of the American Institute of Planners, San Antonio, 1975.

"The Search for Evidence of Racial Containment from the Perspective of Social Science." Clearinghouse for Civil Rights Research. The National Center for Policy Review, Washington, 1975.

What Should Happen After the Mount Laurel Decision. Paper at Symposium of the American Real Estate and Urban Economic Association and the Federal Home Loan Bank System, Washington, 1975.

Handbook for Citizen Fair Housing Advocacy, NCDH, Washington, 1974.

Equal Opportunity in Housing Might Not Mean What you Think it Does. Paper presented to the annual conference of AIP, Denver, 1974.

"The Trend in Housing Density Bonus", with John Prior, in Planning--the ASPO Magazine, November, 1974.

"Metropolitan Housing Allocation Planning", in Urban Land, Urban Land Institute, April 1974.

Urban Land As a National Resource: The Public Interest Vis-a-Vis the Market, privately published paper. 1967. Republished, 1974.

"Housing Allocation Plans: A National Overview." Address to Strategy Conference on Moderate Income Housing for Community Leaders, League of Women Voters Education Fund, Racine, Wisconsin, 1974.

"The Inner City in the Post-Industrial Era -- A Study of its Changing Social Fabric and Economic Function," in The Inner City, Declan Kennedy and Margrit I. Kennedy, (eds.) Paul Elek, London, 1974. American edition by Halsted Press, Division of John Wiley & Sons. New York, 1975.

Housing Allocation Planning: An Annotated Bibliography, with John Prior. Council of Planning Librarians, Monticello, Ill. 1974.

Housing and Environment, a paper presented to Conference of National Civil Rights/Housing Organizations, Washington, 1973.